

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ An apparatus for locating an emitter of electromagnetic waves ~~by means of~~ comprising:

a plurality of receivers, each ~~receiver~~ of said receivers including means for detecting ~~the~~ a time of arrival of said electromagnetic waves at said receiver, and

means for ~~computing the~~ determining respective relative time differences of arrival of said electromagnetic waves between said receivers and for estimating ~~therefrom the~~ from the respective relative time differences a position of the emitter, and ~~including~~

correcting means for correcting said detected times of arrival for path length discrepancies caused by the earth's atmosphere,

wherein each of said receivers is mounted on a respective airborne platform.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the correcting means corrects for discrepancies that are caused by atmospheric refraction.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~each said receiver is mounted on a respective airborne platform, and at~~ least three pairs of said receivers are provided.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said correcting means is arranged to: ~~carry out the following steps:~~

a) measure electromagnetic wave arrival time differences of ~~arrival~~ between pairs of said receivers, ~~[[;]]~~

b) assuming straight-line paths, obtain an estimate of emitter position, ~~[[;]]~~

c) for each receiver, ~~[[;]]~~ using said estimate, obtain ~~the~~ a ground range from said emitter to ~~a receiving platform~~ that receiver, ~~[[;]]~~

d) ~~using~~ use said ground range, ~~and known a receiver~~ height, and an assumed refractive profile in a selected ray-tracing integral equation to predict actual path length, ~~[[;]]~~

e) obtain ~~the~~ a path length difference between said a predicted actual path length and the straight-line path ~~obtained from the estimated emitter position length~~ to form a correction to each of said ~~time differences of electromagnetic wave arrival in Step a);~~ ~~f) return to Step b);~~ g) ~~Continue until the corrections in Step e) converge times, and~~

f) repeatedly obtain said estimate of emitter position, obtain said ground range, predict said actual path length, and obtain said path length difference until said path length difference converges to a certain value.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~[[,]]~~ said correcting means is arranged to ~~perform the following~~ determine said predicted actual path length R from a ray tracing equation [[.]]

$$R = \int_{h_0}^{h_1} \frac{n(h)}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{n_0 \cos(\theta_0)}{n(h) \left[1 + \frac{h}{re}\right]^2}}} dh,$$

where ~~R is the path length~~, $n(h)$ describes the atmospheric refractive profile as a function of height, n_0 is the refractive index at the earth surface, θ_0 is the take-off angle of the ray at the emitter, h_0 and h_1 are the start and end heights of the path, and re is the earth radius.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to ~~any~~ claim 5, including a Kalman filter for improving ~~said~~ correction of said detected times.

7. (Currently amended) A method for locating an emitter of electromagnetic waves by ~~means way of a plurality of receivers~~ the apparatus according to claim 1, comprising detecting the times of arrival of said electromagnetic waves, determining ~~at said receivers, computing the respective~~ relative time differences ~~of arrival between said receivers~~ and estimating ~~therefrom~~ from the respective relative time differences the position of the emitter, and correcting said detected times of arrival for said path length discrepancies, ~~caused by the earth's atmosphere.~~

8-17. (Canceled)